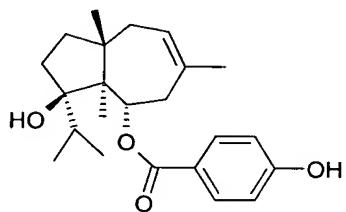


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

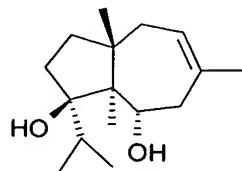
1. (original) A process for the preparation of ferutinine (**Ia**)



(Ia)

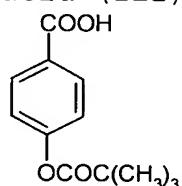
which comprises the following steps:

- extraction of daucane esters from *Ferula spp*;
- basic hydrolysis of daucane esters to give jaeschkenadiol (**II**)



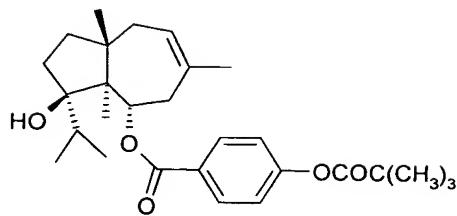
(II)

- esterification of jaeschkenadiol (**II**) with *p*-pivaloyloxybenzoic acid (**III**)



(III)

to give *p*-pivaloylferutinine (**IV**)



- d) hydrolysis of *p*-pivaloylferutinine (IV) to ferutinine.
2. (original) Process according to claim 1 wherein daucane esters are extracted from *Ferula communis*.
3. (original) Process according to claim 1 wherein daucane esters are extracted from *Ferula hermonis*.
4. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-3~~ wherein daucane esters are extracted with supercritic carbon dioxide at temperatures ranging from 35 to 65°C and pressures ranging from 200 to 260 bar.
5. (original) Process according to claim 4 wherein the temperature is 45°C.
6. (currently amended) Process according to claim 4 [[or 5]] wherein the separation is carried out at temperatures ranging from 25 to 45°C and pressures ranging from 45 to 55 bar.
7. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-6~~ wherein steps c) and d) are carried out in sequence without recovering compound (IV).
8. (canceled)
9. (canceled)
10. (canceled)
11. (new) Method of preparing a cosmetic or dermatological composition, which comprises adding an effective amount of *Ferula* spp extract to an acceptable excipient.
12. (new) Method of preparing a cosmetic or dermatological composition , which comprises adding an effective amount of ferutinine to an acceptable excipient.

13. (new) Method of preparing a cosmetic or dermatological composition, which comprises adding an effective amount of *p*-pivaloyloxybenzoic to an acceptable excipient.